

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE



re Application of: :
Jared ZERBE et al. :
Appln. No.: 09/976,170 : Group Art Unit: 2133
Filed: October 12, 2001 : Examiner: J. P. Trimmings
For: METHOD AND APPARATUS :
EVALUATING AND OPTIMIZING A :
SIGNALING SYSTEM :
: **RECEIVED**
: MAY 24 2004

Mail Stop Amendment

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Technology Center 2100

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

In accordance with the duty under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 of each individual associated with the filing and prosecution of the above-identified patent application (hereinafter, "associated individuals") to disclose all information known to that individual to be material to patentability, Applicant(s) hereby submits attached Form PTO-1449 (modified) listing cited references. This submission is made in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98 and § 609 of the Manual of Patent Examining Procedure.

The cited references, while believed to be of some relevance, are not necessarily considered to teach or suggest any aspect of the invention described and claimed in the above-

Patent Application
Attorney Docket No.: 57941.000041
Client Reference No.: RA208.CIP1.US

identified patent application. Applicant(s) hereby expressly reserves the right to swear behind the effective dates of any of the cited references. Applicant(s) further reserves the right to question the relevance, materiality, and/or prior art status of any of the cited references in whole, in part, or in combination, subsequent to the filing of this information disclosure statement. This information disclosure statement is also not to be construed as a representation that a search has, or has not, been conducted or that no better art exists. Rather, this information disclosure statement discloses only the best references of which the associated individuals are aware.

The Examiner is respectfully requested to consider each of the cited references, to indicate such consideration by initialing in the space provided next to each cited reference on the enclosed Form PTO-1449 (modified), to sign the initialed Form PTO-1449 (modified), and to return a copy of the same with the next communication to the Applicant(s).

Since copies of some of the cited references were previously submitted in prior U.S. Patent Application No. 09/776,550 (Attorney Docket No. 57941.000037), copies of those cited references are not being submitted herewith. However, copies will be forwarded at the request of the Examiner.

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For the convenience of the Examiner in considering the cited references, a copy of each of the other cited references is enclosed with this communication. In considering the cited references, it may be noted by the Examiner that certain of the references may contain markings, underlinings, and/or other notations. These markings, underlinings, and/or other notations are not to be construed as drawing the Examiner's attention either to selected parts or away from other parts of the cited references. Any such markings were either present on the copies of the cited references obtained by the associated individuals, or were made thereon during the study of the references by the associated individuals.

In accordance with 37 CFR § 1.97(c), this supplemental information disclosure statement is being filed (i) before the mailing date of a final Office Action for the above-identified patent application; (ii) before the mailing date of a Notice of Allowance for the above-identified patent application; or (iii) before the mailing date of an Office Action that otherwise closes prosecution in the above-identified patent application. Accordingly, this supplemental information disclosure statement is accompanied by a statement under 37 CFR § 1.97(e)

The undersigned hereby states under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(2) that no item of information contained in this information

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disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in this supplemental information disclosure statement was known to any individual associated with the filing and prosecution of the above-identified patent application more than three months prior to the filing of this supplemental information disclosure statement. Accordingly, no statement or fee is required.

However, if there are any fees due in connection with the filing of this communication, you are here authorized to charge the Undersigned's Deposit Account No. 50-0206, and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

Hunton & Williams LLP

By:

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Date: May 20, 2004

LIST OF MATERIALS CITED BY APPLICANT <small>(Use several sheets if necessary)</small>		ATTY. DOCKET NO.: 57941.000041	SERIAL NO.: 09/976,170
		INVENTOR'S NAME: Jared ZERBE et al.	EXAMINER: John P. Trimming <i>O I P E</i>
		FILING DATE: October 12, 2001	GROUP: 2133

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U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

*EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS
	1.	3869580	03-04-1975	Ragsdale		MAY 24 2004
	2.	3909563	09-30-1975	Ghosh et al.		
	3.	4271514	06-02-1981	Parras et al.		
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	5.	5142495	08-25-1992	Canepa		
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	8.	5258986	11-02-1993	Zerbe		
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	30.	6222380	04-24-2001	Gerowitz et al.		

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**FORM PTO-1449 U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
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INVENTOR'S NAME:
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EXAMINER:
John P. Trimming

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*EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE
	31.	20010034866	10-25-2001	Barry et al.			
	32.	6385236	05-07-2002	Chen			
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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document		Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Country	Translation (Y/N)
		Office ³	Number ⁴				
	54.		4-246921	Nishi	09-02-1992	JP	Y(Abstract)
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EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

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